

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 HONG KONG 8849

NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CH

SUBJ: WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ,NO. 30

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SUMMARY: DESPITE THE GENERAL LACK OF NATIONAL MEDIA COMMENTARY ON THE MOVEMENT AGAINST TENG, THE PACE OF CAMPAIGN-RELATED ACTIVITIES IN THE PROVINCES IS BEGINNING TO QUICKEN. AT THE SAME TIME, PROVINCIAL BROADCASTS ARE STARTING TO GEAR UP FOR THE 49TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY ON AUGUST 1 WITH EMPHASIS ON "LEARNING FROM THE PLA", CRITICISM OF TENG'S BOURGEOISE MILITARY LINE, AND STUDY OF THE SHANGHAI MODEL IN MILITIA BUILDING. LEADERSHIP VACANCIES CONTINUE TO PLAGUE ALL LEVELS OF THE CHINESE POLITICAL SYSTEM, BUT WU TEH MAY BE TEMPORARILY HANDLING THE CEREMONIAL DUTIES OF THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS CHAIRMANSHIP--A POST LEFT VACANT BY CHU TEH'S DEATH ON JULY 6. ON THE EXTERNAL SIDE, THE LOCAL COMMUNIST PRESS HAS TAKEN A NEGATIVE VIEW OF THE RENEWED U.S. CALL FOR FOUR-POWER TALKS ON KOREA AND RECENT CATER STATEMENTS ON NORMALIZATION OF U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS. THE CHINESE ARE CONFIDENTIAL

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ALSO CONTINUING TO MANIFEST THEIR PIQUE OVER THE MIYAZAWA STATEMENTS. FINALLY, IN PEKING, CHINESE LEADERS ARE ENTERTAINING THE BOTSWANA PRESIDENT.

1. THE CAMPAIGN QUICKENS

WHILE MEDIA COMMENTARY ON THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST TENG CONTINUES TO SLACK, THERE ARE INCREASING SIGNS THAT

CAMPAING-RELATED ACTIVITIES MAY BE ACCELERATING (HONG KONG 8716) COUPLED WITH A DEVELOPING SENSE OF LEADERSHIP INDECISIONS AT ALL LEVELS OF THE CHINESE BUREAUCRACY (HONG KONG 8790). FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, A JULY 25 NCNA ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUNERAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE MINISTER OF THE COAL INDUSTRY REVEALED THE EXISTANCE OF A STATE COUNCIL POLITICAL WORK GROUP. WHILE THE EXACT DATE OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT IS UNCLEAR, THE "GROUP" MAY BE TASKED WITH THE RECTIFICATION OF "CAPITALIST ROADERS" IN THE STATE COUNCIL (HONG KONG 8799). CONFIDENTIAL

2. CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY APPEARS TO BE PICKING UP IN THE PROVINCES WITH WIDESPREAD ATTENTION BEING GIVEN TO THE RAPID GROWTH OF LEFTIST-SPONSORED WORKERS' UNIVERSITIES IN COMMEMORATION OF MAO'S JULY 21, 1968 DIRECTIVE (HONG KONG 8668) AND WITH DISCUSSIONS MEETINGS IN LIAONING, HEILUNGKIANG, AND KWEICHOW DEALING WITH TENG AND OTHER "CAPITALIST ROADERS". THE JULY 25 BROADCAST ON THE KWEICHOW THEORY DISCUSSION MEETING, ATTENDED BY PROVINCIALS CADRES AND "BACKBONE FIGHTER THEORISTS", WAS NOTEWORTHY FOR ITS TARGETING OF "CAPITALIST ROADERS IN THE PARTY". AND "RINGLEADERS LIKE LIU SHAO-CH'U, LIN PIAO AND TENG HSIAO-P'ING" AS THE "FOCUS OF THE STRUGGLE." HOWEVER, THE BROADCAST SEEMED TO RETREAT SOMEWHAT BY STATING THAT THE "PROTRACTED STRUGGLE" IS NOT WITH "INDIVIDUALS" BUT WITH "CAPITALIST ROADERS" AS A CLASS. THESE BROADCASTS COME AMID SIGNS THAT ATTACKS AGAINST KEY PROVINCIAL LEADERS CONTINUE (PEKING 1374) AND WITH FEW APPEARANCES BY PROVINCIAL FIRST SECRETARIES DURING THE PAST WEEK. MOREOVER, THE PEKING AUTHORITIES HAVE APPARENTLY MOVED TO RESTRICT FOREIGN STUDENT TRAVEL TO THE PROVINCES FOR "SECURITY" REASONS, ACCORDING TO A JULY 22 AFP REPORT. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. PREPARATIONS FOR ARMY DAY

IN PREPARATION FOR THE 49TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY ON AUGUST 1, A NUMBER OF BROADCASTS HAVE EMPHASIZED CRITICISM OF TENG HSIAO-P'ING'S METHOD OF ARMY BUILDING, HIS NEGLECT OF "CLASS STRUGGLE". AND HIS UNDUE RELIANCE ON WEAPONRY OVER MANPOWER. IN PARTICULAR, NCNA DOMESTIC SERVICE ON JULY 23 REPORTED THAT A SHENYANG PLA GROUP HAS CRITICIZED TENG FOR ATTEMPTING TO "READJUST" MAO'S PROLETARIAN MILITARY LINE AND "TURN OUR ARMY INTO A BOURGEOIS ARMY". LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

4. THE GOAL OF STRENGTHENING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PLA AND THE MASSES IS ALSO BEING STRESSED. TINETAN

PROVINCIAL RADIO NOTES THAT EFFORTS MUST BE MADE TO INCREASE "LEARNING FROM THE PLA" WHILE OTHERS STRESS IMPROVEMENT IN ARMY-GOVERNMENT AND ARMY-PEOPLE RELATIONSHIPS. ON THE OTHER HAND, SEVERAL PROVINCES (HAINAN ON JULY 14 AND ANHWEI ON JULY 23) HAVE RECENTLY HELD MEETINGS TO "LEARN FROM SHANGHAI" IN MILITIA BUILDING AND TO ESTABLISH THE MILITIA AS A "PILLAR OF THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT." SUCH EFFORTS MAY WELL REPRESENT AN ATTEMPT TO BROADEN SUPPORT FOR THE MILITIA--AN ORGANIZATION THAT HAS BEEN CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH LEFTIST ATTEMPTS TO REDUCE THE POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF THE PLA IN THE PAST. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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5. WU TEH PERFORMS NPC CHAIRMAN'S DUTIES

AMID PRESS REPORTS THAT HE HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS (NPC) CHAIRMAN (VACATED BY CHU TEH'S DEATH ON JULY 6), NPC VICE CHAIRMAN WU TEH RECEIVED THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS ON JULY 24 (HONG KONG 8728). THIS LED TO SPECULATION THAT WU MAY ASCEND TO CHU TEH'S FORMER POSITION. A LOCAL PRC CADRE, HOWEVER, DOUBTED THAT WU WOULD ACTUALLY TAKE CHU'S POST, ALTHOUGH HE COULD THINK OF NO LIKELY CHOICE FOR THE NPC CHAIRMANSHIP (HONG KONG 8790). CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN

6. THE UNITED STATES

NCNA HAS REPORTED THE ARRIVAL OF A U.S. CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS' DELEGATION IN CHINA, BUT THE VIKING LANDING ON MARS AND SECRETARY KISSINGER'S WIDE-RANGING JULY 22 SEATTLE ADDRESS HAVE YET TO BE MENTIONED BY PRC DOMESTIC MEDIA ORGANS. IN THE LONE COMMENTARY ON THE SPEECH TO APPEAR IN THE PRC-OWNED PRESS IN HONG KONG, WEN WEI PAO, MENTIONED ONLY HIS REMARKS ON KOREA AND TURNED THUMBS DOWN ON THE SECRETARY'S REITERATED CALLS FOR FOUR-POWER TALKS. BOTH THE JULY 22 COMMENTARY AND A PRC U.N. REPRESENTATIVE MAINTAINED THAT U.S. PROPOSALS ON KOREA ARE NOTHING NEW. THE LOCAL COMMUNIST PRESS HAS ALSO CARRIED REPORTS HIGH-LIGHTING THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE'S RECENT COMMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY. HSIN-WAN PAO'S FAVORABLE COVERAGE OF CARTER STATEMENTS, HOWEVER, WAS LIMITED OT

HIS VIEW ON EUROPE AND RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS. ITS JULY 26 COMMENTARY INDICATED DISPLEASURE WITH CARTER'S ADVOCACY OF FULL NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE PRC CONTINGENT UPON PEKING ASSURANCES REGARDING TAIWAN'S SECURITY. THE COMMENTARY ALSO CONTAINED CRITICISM OF STATEMENTS ON U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS BY PRESIDENT FORD AND
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MIYAZAWA AND ALSO INDICATED OBJECTIONS TO THE GERMAN MODEL FOR NORMALIZATION. IT TREATED THE JAPANESE AND CANADIAN MODELS AS MORE IN KEEPING WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.

7. MEANWHILE, EXCERPTED PORTS OF EUGENE ROSTOW'S ARTICLE IN THE SPRING '76 ISSUE OF "STRATEGIC REVIEW" HAVE BEEN PROMINENTLY FEATURED IN NCNA UNDER THE HEADLINING ROSTOW QUOTE: "U.S. AND ITS ALLIES ARE IN DANGER." NCNA IDENTIFIES ROSTOW AS PRESIDENT OF THE ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION AND A FORMER UNDERSECRETARY IN THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION BEFORE REPLAYING HIS WARNING THAT THE BALANCE OF POWER NOW FAVORS THE SOVIETS. THE ARTICLE FEATURES ROSTOW'S VIEW THAT THE U.S. AND ITS ALLIES CAN AFFORD TO WAIT NO LONGER TO MEET THE SOVIET EXPANSIONIST THREAT AND THE U.S. SHOULD CONSOLIDATE ITS ALLIANCES AND PROTECT ITS RELATIONS WITH CHINA AND JAPAN (HONG KONG 8712, USUN 3019 AND NCNA JULY 21-27). LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

8. WESTERN EUROPE

IN CONTRAST WITH THE DISMAL ROSTOW WARNING, A SIGNED PEOPLE'S DAILY ARTICLE JULY 21 NOTED WITH APPROVAL THE EEC SUMMIT MEETING'S UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT ON DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT TO BE DIRECTLY ELECTED IN 1978. A JULY 23 NCNA COMMENTARY CRITICIZED THE U.S. FOR ITS "TREND OF APPEASEMENT" BUT NOTED THAT WESTERN EUROPEAN POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERS HAVE CALLED FOR STRENGTHENING THEMSELVES MILITARILY RATHER THAN TOTALLY RELYING ON THE U.S. ON THE SAME DAY, IT NOTED WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S DECLARATION THAT NATO WAS "INDISPENSABLE" AND THAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN FORCES FROM EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN WOULD HAVE "A CATASTROPHIC IMPACT" ON THE EAST-WEST BALANCE OF POWER. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

9. THE ENTRY OF THE FIRST SOVIET AIRCRAFT CARRIER, THE KIEV, INTO THE MEDITERRANEAN ON JULY 18 HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICED IN PEKING. NCNA HAS CARRIED A SPATE OF EUROPEAN MEDIA CONDEMNATION OF THE KIEV'S ARRIVAL IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. ON JULY 21, AN NCNA COMMENTARY NOTED THAT SOVIET GUIDED MISSILE TESTS IN THE BARENTS SEA ARE A "KIND
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OF INTIMIDATION AND BLACKMAIL" FOR SEIZING CONTROL OF NORWAY'S NORTHERN WATERS, WHICH ARE STRATEGICALLY IMPORTANT AS THE ONLY PASSAGE INTO THE ATLANTIC FOR THE SOVIET NORTHERN FLEET. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

10. A PEOPLE'S DAILY COMMENTARY JULY 23 CRITICIZED SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO INTERVENE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF PORTUGAL AND NOTED THAT THE RESULT OF THE JUNE 28 PORTUGUESE ELECTIONS AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT WERE CONTRARY TO THE KREMLIN'S DESIRES. SUCH PRC PERCEPTIONS OF A DECLINING SOVIET INFLUENCE IN PORTUGAL COULD PROVIDE A MORE CONDUCTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WHICH REPORTEDLY COULD COME AS EARLY AS AUGUST. AN INVITATION TO A PORTUGUESE DELEGATION SO SOON AFTER THE ELECTIONS (THE DELEGATION WOUND UP ITS TOUR IN CHINA LAST WEEK) CLEARLY SEEMS TO SIGNAL CHINA'S FAVORABLE ASSESSMENT OF RECENT POLITICAL CHANGES IN LISBON (HONG KONG 8640).
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11. JAPAN

AFTER PEKING'S PROTEST TO THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR ON THE JAPANESE FOMIN'S REMARKS ON U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS, PRC MEDIA'S DIRECT ATTACKS ON MIYAZAWA HAVE SUBSIDED. DURING THE WEEK, NANA HAS CONTINUED TO SPOTLIGHT THE SPATE OF JAPANESE GROUPS VISITING CHINA AND FRIENDLY TIES BETWEEN THE CHINESE AND JAPANESE PEOPLES. HOWEVER, CHINA HAS REQUESTED THAT JULY SHIPPING TALKS WITH JAPAN BE POSTPONED UNTIL AUGUST AND IS NOW BACKING AWAY FROM TOKYO DISCUSSIONS ON A CEREMONY TO COMMEMORATE THE 4TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORMALIZATION OF SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS. PRIME MINISTER MIKI'S EXPECTED CLARIFICATION OF HIS REMARKS IN THE DIET COULD PROMPT ANOTHER PUBLIC DISPLAY OF CHINA'S PIQUE OVER THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S ACTIONS. (TOKYO 11145 AND NCNA JULY 21-27) CONFIDENTIAL

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AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

12. AFRICA

BOTSWANA PRESIDENT IN PEKING

CHINA HAS AGAIN PROVIDED THE CUSTOMARY RED CARPET TREATMENT TO WELCOME BOTSWANA PRESIDENT SIR SERETSE KHAMA, WHO ARRIVED IN PEKING JULY 26 FROM CANTON/HONG KONG. PREMIER HUA KUO-FENG WAS ON HAND AT THE AIRPORT AND ON JULY 27 HELD TALKS WITH SIR SERETSE, LATER HOSTING THE CUSTOMARY WELCOME BANQUET.

13. HUA'S SPEECH FOLLOWED MUCH ALONG THE LINES OF HIS RECENT REMARKS AT BANQUETS HONORING THE BENIN PRESIDENT. AFTER PRAISE OF BOTSWANA POLICIES, HE DWELT ON CHINA'S CONCERN ABOUT THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, WITH PREDICTABLE BLASTS AT SUPERPOWER, PARTICULARLY SOVIET, ACTIVITIES AND HARSH ATTACKS ON THE POLICIES OF THE VORSTER AND SMITH REGIMES.

14. IN RESPONSE, THE BOTSWANA PRESIDENT EXPRESSED THE APPRECIATION OF THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA FOR CHINA'S CONTINUED SUPPORT. WITHOUT MENTIONING THE SOVIETS, HE THEN DELIVERED A DISCOURSE ON BOTSWANA'S ROLE IN THE LIBERATION STRUGGLES AND RELATIONS WITH EACH OF ITS SOUTHERN AFRICAN NEIGHBORS. HE STRONGLY CONDEMNED WESTERN ECONOMIC TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA, PARTICULARLY U.S., WEST GERMAN AND FRENCH COMPETITION TO SELL SOUTH AFRICA NUCLEAR REACTORS.

15. MEANWHILE, A JULY 28 COMMENTARY IN THE HONG KONG TA KUNG APO KEYED TO THE VISIT SUGGESTED THAT CHINA WOULD BE INCLINED TO SUPPORT A ZAMBIAN-BOTSWANA RAILWAY WHICH WOULD END BOTSWANA'S DEPENDENCE ON RAILWAY LINES VIA RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA FOR ACCESS TO WORLD MARKETS.

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16. OTHER AFRICAN REPORTS

ELSEWHERE, ON JULY 20, PRC VICE PREMIER SUN CHIEN, HAVING WOUND UP HIS VISIT TO ZAMBIA, BEGAN A VISIT TO TANZANIA (SEE WEEKAS 28 AND 29). NCNA CONTINUED TO CARRY REPORTS OF HIS MEETINGS WITH AFRICAN LEADERS AND SUCH ACTIVITIES AS WREATH LAYING AT THE TANZAM RAILWAY MARTYRS' TOMBS AND VISITS TO ZANZIBAR AND THE ARUSHA REGION.

17 NCNA HAS ALSO REPORTED THE BANQUETHOSTED BY MIN. O PUBLIC HEALTH LIU HSIANG-PING FOR A COMEROON PUBLIC HEALTH DELEGATION AND HAS APPLAUDED THE DECISION OF SOME 30 AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO BOYCOTT THE 21ST OLYMPIC GAMES TO

OPPOSE RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. (NCNA JULY 21-27)
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18. SOUTHEAST ASIA

PRC DOMESTIC MEDIA HAVE CONTINUED TO IGNORE VIETNAMESE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER PHAN HIEN'S VISIT TO ALL ASEAN CAPITALS, BURMA AND LAOS, AN INDICATION THAT THE PRC IS RELUCTANT TO APPEAR SUPPORTIVE OF VIETNAM'S NEW "SMILING DIPLOMACY." FINDING ONE OF THE FEW RECENT AREAS OF AGREEMENT WITH HANOI, NCNA JULY 23 CARRIED A VIETNAMESE NEWSPAPER DENUNCIATION OF INDONESIA FOR ITS ANNEXATION OF EAST TIMOR. EVER SINCE THE JULY 17 ANNEXATION, THE PRC HAS CARRIED A STEADY BARRAGE CONDEMNING INDONESIA AND EXPRESSING ITS SUPPORT FOR FRETELIN, THE TIMORESE LIBERATION GROUP. A PEOPLE'S DAILY JULY 22 COMMENTARY CHRGED THAT INDONESIA'S ACTION CONSTITUTED "BARBAROUS AGGRESSION." NONETHELESS, PRC MEDIA HAS STOPPED SHORT OF EXPRESSING EXPLICIT CHINESE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR FRETELIN. CURIOUSLY, NCNA JULY 27 CARRIED A CAMBODIAN RADIO ARTICLE DENOUNCING THE INDONESIAN'S "CRIMINAL AIM" IN EAST TIMOR, BUT FAILED TO MENTION THE VISIT OF THE FRETELIN DELEGATION NOW IN PHNOM PENH. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

19. SOUTH ASIA

THE PRC CONTINUES TO REPORT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH
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THE LESSENING OF TENSIONS IN SOUTH ASIA. IN ADDITION TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF NEW INDIAN AMBASSADOR NARAYANAN'S CREDENTIALS (PARA 5), NCNA NOTED THE RESUMPTION OF AIR AND RAIL LINKS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND INDIA AFTER A BREAK OF APPROXIMATELY 11 YEARS. IT ALSO REPORTED A PAKISTAN GOODWILL DELEGATION'S VISIT TO BANGLADESH AND NOTED THAT IRAN AND BANGLADESH HAD SIGNED TWO AGREEMENTS ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ON AN INCREASE IN BILATERAL TRADE. (NCNA JULY 22, 24, 27) UNCLASSIFIED

20. OTHER VISITORS

PRINCESS ASHRAF PAHLAVI, TWIN SISTER OF THE SHAH OF IRAN, ARRIVED IN PEKING JULY 21 AMID PRESS SPECULATION THAT SHE WAS PREPARING THE GROUNDWORK FOR HER BROTHER'S FIRST TRIP TO THE PRC. THE PRINCESS MET WITH PREMIER HUA KUO-FENG, HAD TALKS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO KUAN-HUA, AND WAS HONORED AT TWO BANQUETS, THE FIRST HOSTED BY NPC VICE CHAIRMAN LI SU-WEN AND THE OTHER BY VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN. PREMIER HUA AND FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO ALSO MET THIS PAST WEEK WITH FORMER AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER

EDWARD GOUGH QITLAM, THUS CONTINUING THE PATTERN OF
CHINA'S HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION TO CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL
FIGURES. (NCNA JULY 21-26) UNCLASSIFIED
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